



**CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
PUBLIC SAFETY AND VICTIMS SERVICES**

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July 29, 2009

**TO:** ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

**RE:** VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT – *REQUEST FOR CONCEPT PAPERS*

The California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) is pleased to announce that it is seeking Concept Papers for potential funding under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Services\*Training\*Officers\*Prosecutors (STOP) Program. The goal of the VAWA STOP Program is to promote multidisciplinary collaboration in an effort to better serve victims of violent crimes against women and to hold their offenders accountable. In accordance with the program goals, this solicitation intends to enhance services for the victims and to strengthen the State's law enforcement and prosecution strategies through the promotion of evidence based practices.

Concept Papers are critical components for the success of state STOP grant programs. These Concept Papers may provide one of the only opportunities for key stakeholders from a variety of disciplines to consider how to best serve victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Cal EMA will utilize the Concept Papers as snapshots of the State's most compelling needs and blueprints of the necessary steps to address them. They will be used as strategic tools and continual aids in Cal EMA's efforts to plan and monitor the successes in ending violence against women. The Concept Papers under this request will serve as reference documents for the VAWA STOP Implementation Planning Committee and be used to assist in the development of the state's Fiscal Year 2010-2013 Implementation Plan.

Implementation plans outline the ways in which Cal EMA will use STOP funding compliant with federal priority areas. Through a deliberative consultation and coordination with a broad range of participants, utilizing the Concept Papers, Cal EMA must develop and submit a three-year Implementation Plan to the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

**ELIGIBILITY**

Applicants are limited to state or local public or private entities, including nonprofit, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher learning, tribal entities, and units of local government that support the initiatives to provide assistance to victims of crimes (other than compensation).

**DEADLINE**

All Concept Papers are due by 5:00 p.m. on August 31, 2009.

**PROGRAM-SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

California seeks to carry out the aforementioned goals of the VAWA STOP Program by forging lasting partnerships between the criminal justice system and victim advocacy organizations, and by looking beyond traditional resources for new partners to respond more vigorously to violence against women.

By statute, funds under the VAWA STOP Program must meet one or more of the following statutory purpose areas:

1. Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence.
2. Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, and other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence.
3. Developing and implementing more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, and domestic violence.
4. Developing, installing, or expanding data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems, linking police, prosecutors, and courts or for the purpose of identifying and tracking arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, and domestic violence.
5. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services programs, sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence programs, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence.
6. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing stalking.
7. Developing, enlarging or strengthening programs addressing needs and circumstances of Indian tribes in dealing with violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, and domestic violence.
8. Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by state funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence.
9. Training of sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners in the collection and preservation of evidence, analysis, prevention, and providing expert testimony and treatment of trauma related to sexual assault.
10. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, including recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals.
11. Providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters.



12. Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families.
13. Supporting the placement of special victim assistants (to be known as “Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants”) in local law enforcement agencies to serve as liaisons between victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and personnel in local law enforcement agencies in order to improve the enforcement of protection orders. Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants shall have expertise in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and may undertake the following activities:
  - Developing, in collaboration with prosecutors, courts, and victim services providers, standardized response policies for local law enforcement agencies, including triage protocols to ensure that dangerous or potentially lethal cases are identified and prioritized;
  - Notifying persons seeking enforcement of protection orders as to what responses will be provided by the relevant law enforcement agency;
  - Referring persons seeking enforcement of protection orders to supplementary services (such as emergency shelter programs, hotlines, or legal assistance services); and
  - Taking other appropriate action to assist or secure the safety of the person seeking enforcement of a protection order.
14. To provide funding to law enforcement agencies, nonprofit nongovernmental victim services providers, and State, tribal, territorial, and local governments, (which funding stream shall be known as the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program) to promote:
  - The development and implementation of training for local victim domestic violence service providers, and to fund victim services personnel, to be known as “Crystal Judson Victim Advocates,” to provide supportive services and advocacy for victims of domestic violence committed by law enforcement personnel;
  - The implementation of protocols within law enforcement agencies to ensure consistent and effective responses to the commission of domestic violence by personnel within such agencies (such as the model policy promulgated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police) [‘Domestic Violence by Police Officers: A Policy of the IACP, Police Responses to Violence Against Women Project’, July 2003]; and
  - The development of such protocols in collaboration with State, tribal, territorial, and local victim services providers and domestic violence coalitions.

#### **MANDATORY COMPONENTS**

The Concept Paper must identify which of the 14 statutory purpose area(s) you are selecting and must include the goals of the project, a description of the strategies to be used, a numerical listing of key/major deliverables, and coordination plans. Concept papers should describe projects that are linked to meaningful and measurable outcomes consistent with the goals of the VAWA STOP Program. In shaping California’s strategies for 2010 and beyond, it is encouraged that the Concept Papers show the development and support of new projects which:

- Implement culturally competent services and community-driven initiatives, utilizing faith-based and community organizations, to address the needs of underserved, cultural and linguistic populations, as defined by VAWA, including people with disabilities and elder victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking;

- Address sexual assault and stalking through service expansion; development and implementation of protocols; training for judges, other court personnel, prosecutors, and law enforcement; and development of coordinated community response to violence against women;
- Enhance or strengthen statewide collaboration efforts among law enforcement, prosecution, non-profit/non-governmental victim service providers, including faith-based and community organizations, and courts in addressing violence against women; and
- Develop, strengthen or enhance statewide court initiatives that implement innovative court procedures and practices to address violence against women.

The Concept Paper must use a standard 12-point font with 1 inch margins. The Concept paper must not exceed two-pages. Submissions that do not adhere to the format will not be considered.

#### REVIEW PROCESS

CAL EMA is committed to ensuring a standardized process for reviewing all Concept Papers. Cal EMA will review all Concept Papers to make sure the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable and achievable, as well as consistent with the program requirements stated in this solicitation.

The VAWA Implementation Planning Team members will be reviewing the Concept papers submitted. Each Implementation Team member is a subject matter expert in one of the four primary VAWA categories (Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Victim Services and the Courts) and is not an employee of Cal EMA. Only Concept Papers submitted by eligible applicants that meet all of the requirements (such as timeliness, formatting, and responsiveness to the scope of the solicitation) will be evaluated, scored, and rated by the VAWA Implementation Team. The VAWA Implementation Team's ratings and review are advisory only.

After the review is finalized the VAWA Implementation Team, in consultation with Cal EMA, will evaluate the potential programs inclusion in the state's Fiscal Year 2010-2013 Implementation Plan for development and implementation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Roseann St.Clair by phone at (916) 323-7729 or by email at [roseann.stclair@oes.ca.gov](mailto:roseann.stclair@oes.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

  
ELLIE JONES, MSW, Chief  
Victim Services Branch